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26 January 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Distribution Abroad of the National Intelligence Digest (NID)

Outline

1. To determine what distribution shall be made to CIA missions abroad of the National Intelligence Digest (NID).

Points Bearing on the Problem

2. Except for one exception, the NID has not been distributed to any CIA missions abroad. The exception occurred when the then DI/I, in March 1953, directed that one copy of the November 1952 revision be sent to General Trusetti for the use of Ambassador Bohlen, then on his way to Moscow.

3. The DI/P has requested that the NID, in whole or in part, be sent to a number of CIA missions abroad (see TAB "A").

4. The Director of Security has recommended that the NID not be distributed abroad. The Director of Security has informed O/NE that the physical locations of the various missions was "not a deciding factor" in arriving at his recommendation.

Discussion

5. The NID is a very sensitive document; the highest of security measures must be taken to protect unauthorized use or disclosure of its content.

6. By its nature it is also a document which can be of great use to key CIA people at home or abroad. The present plan to keep the NID current will further increase its usefulness.

7. Many of the missions may receive NIE's and other publications which collectively would seem to be as sensitive as is the NID.

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Conclusion

8. The MID is an extremely sensitive document but can also be an extremely useful one, particularly to Senior Representatives in key posts.

9. The decision to authorize or withhold distribution abroad is a policy decision outside the competence of O/E to make.

Recommendation

10. That the DCI rule on whether or not the MID may be given dissemination abroad.

11. If authority is granted to disseminate abroad, that the dissemination requested by NS/P (TAB "A") be modified to give the whole MID to major missions, and area sections (as against individual country sections) to minor missions (see TAB "B").

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**Deputy Assistant Director
National Estimates**

CONSTRUCTION:

Deputy Director/Intelligence

APPROVED:

Director of Central Intelligence

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